

E-Filed 7/20/09

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

DONG AH TIRE & RUBBER CO., LTD,

Plaintiff,

V.

GLASFOMS, INC.,

Defendant/Third-Party Plaintiff.

V.

CTG INTERNATIONAL (NORTH AMERICA) INC., and TAISHAN FIBERGLASS, INC.,

Third-Party Defendants.

Case Number C 06-3359 JF (RS)

ORDER¹ OVERRULING IN PART OBJECTIONS TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S ORDER

RE: Docket No. 315

Third-party Defendant Taishan Fiberglass, Inc. (“Taishan”) objects to the Magistrate Judge’s order imposing sanctions for its alleged spoliation of evidence after litigation reasonably was anticipated. The Court has considered the full record before it, the Magistrate Judge’s

¹ This disposition is not designated for publication in the official reports.

1 order, and the arguments of counsel, and finds that with respect to all but Taishan's purported
 2 duty to preserve or track its graphite rollers, the order was not clearly erroneous or contrary to
 3 law. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a).* With respect to Taishan's purported duty to preserve or track the
 4 use of its graphite rollers, the source of such a duty is unclear, and the Court will request further
 5 briefing, as set forth below.

6 Glasforms used Taishan-manufactured glass in its insulators from June 2004 until
 7 sometime in December 2004. Adopting the September 6, 2005 date established by the
 8 Magistrate Judge as the point at which Taishan reasonably should have anticipated litigation, the
 9 fact remains that approximately nine months had passed since Glasforms ceased using Taishan
 10 glass to make its rods—meaning that *well over* nine months likely had passed since Taishan
 11 actually manufactured the glass. Taishan has asserted in declarations that the subject rollers
 12 bear no identification marks, are physically identical, and are used interchangeably, being
 13 rotated onto and off of the production line as required. At least at present, the Court is aware of
 14 no evidence that contradicts this assertion, or that indicates why Taishan should have been
 15 expected to preserve or track the rollers in the highly detailed manner urged by Glasforms and in
 16 effect required by the Magistrate Judge's order.

17 Glasforms may file opposition to Taishan's objections with respect to the graphite rollers
 18 not later than Thursday July 23, 2009 at 5 PM. Taishan may file a reply in support of its
 19 objections not later than Monday July 27, 2009 at 5 PM. In all other respects, Taishan's
 20 objections are overruled.

21 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

23 DATED: 7/20/09

24
 25 
 26 JEREMY FOGEL
 27 United States District Judge
 28

1 This Order has been served electronically upon the following persons:

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13 Notice has been delivered by other means to:

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